



**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION VARIANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE

**PROPOSED CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
PROPOSED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
FOR THE
REUSE OF LEAD-CONTAMINATED SOILS**

The California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requests public comments on its proposed Negative Declaration on a variance from hazardous waste generator, treatment, storage and disposal requirements for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). The public comment period begins on July 26, 2000 and ends on August 27, 2000. Written comments must be postmarked by August 27, 2000 and sent to:

Bob Piacentini, Project Manager
DTSC Headquarters
400 P Street 4th Floor
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95612

The proposed Negative Declaration is made under provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code, section 21080(c).

Before making a final determination, DTSC will review and respond to all submitted comments. DTSC will publish a "Response to Comments" and mail a copy to all those who submitted comments and to those who request a copy. A copy can be requested by sending a written request to Bob Piacentini at the address above. Also, a copy of the "Response to Comments" will be placed in the information repositories listed in this notice.

The variance, which is not subject to public comment, will allow specified Caltrans districts to collect and reuse soil that is contaminated with low levels of lead. The contaminated soil exists within specific Caltrans districts along many freeway and highway corridors that are or will be undergoing maintenance, modification, or improvements. The contamination is a result of emissions from vehicles using leaded gasoline. The soil will be reused as road base or as a foundation for embankments during such construction activities. The variance specifies steps that Caltrans must take to ensure that human health and the environment are protected. DTSC determined that the request for a variance meets the requirements of the California Health and Safety Code, section 25143. The variance does not relieve Caltrans from compliance with any other regulations or requirements of other agencies which may be related to reuse of this material.

In accordance with CEQA, an Initial Study was prepared to evaluate potential environmental impacts that may result from issuing the variance to Caltrans. After completing the Initial Study DTSC has determined that issuing the variance is unlikely to produce any significant impacts on public health or the environment making preparation of an Environmental Impact Report unnecessary. Therefore, DTSC is proposing a Negative Declaration for this Caltrans variance.

Copies of the proposed Negative Declaration and variance are available for inspection and copying at the following information repositories:

Cal/EPA-DTSC

Headquarters
Contact: Bob Piacentini
400 P Street 4th Floor
P.O. Box 806
Sacramento, CA 95612
(916) 322-4819

Caltrans Headquarters

Ed Imai or Julia Turney
1120 N Street, MS 27
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 653-3876

Central Valley

Caltrans District 10
Contact: Dale Jones
1976 E. Charter Way
P.O. Box 2048
Stockton, CA 95201
(209) 948-3811

Caltrans District 6
Contact: Agnes Jenkins
1352 W. Olive Ave.
Fresno, CA 93728
(559) 243-8234

San Francisco Bay Area

Caltrans District 4
Contact: Celia McCuaig
111 W. Grand Avenue
P.O. Box 23660
Oakland, CA 94623-0660
(510) 286-5659

LA/San Bernardino

Caltrans District 7
Contact: George Ghebranious
120 South Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 897-0693

Caltrans District 8
Contact: Tony Louka
464 West 4th Street, 6th Floor
San Bernardino, CA 92402
(909) 383-6385

Orange Co./San Diego

Caltrans District 12
Contact: Reza Aurasteh
3347 Michelson Drive, # 100
Irvine, CA 92612
(714) 724-2097

Caltrans District 11
Contact: Jayne Dowda
2829 Juan Street, MS 46
San Diego, CA 92110
(619) 688-3377

The full Administrative Record pertaining to this matter is available for review at the DTSC headquarters address shown above. Anyone interested in obtaining a fact sheet about the project should contact DTSC Public Participation Coordinator, Randy Sturgeon by calling (916) 255-3649. The fact sheet is also available on the internet at www.dtsc.ca.gov/whats_new.html.